

Sub D1
in regard to mixture A, constituents A1 + A3 where constituent A1 is platinum in the form of a platinum complex or compound and constituent A3 consists of a combination of FeO and Fe₂O₃;

in regard to mixture B, mixture B consisting of at least one of: constituents B1 + B2 where constituent B1 has the meaning of constituent A1 and constituent B2 comprises cerium (IV) oxide and/or hydroxide; and

C
constituents B1 + B3 where constituent B1 has the meaning of constituent A1 and constituent B3 has the meaning of a combination of cerium (IV) oxide and/or hydroxide and titanium oxide TiO₂; or

in regard to mixture C, constituents C1 + C2 where constituent C1 has the meaning of constituent A1 and constituent C2 consists of a combination of constituent B3 and constituent A3;

in constituent A3, the ratio of the amount by weight of FeO to that of Fe₂O₃ lies within the range going from 0.1:1 to 9:1;

in constituent B3, the ratio of the amount by weight of cerium (IV) oxide and/or hydroxide to that of TiO₂ lies within the range going from 0.6:1 to 6:1;

in constituent C2, the ratio of the amount by weight of constituent A3 to that of constituent B3 lies within the range going from 0.02:1 to 1:1;

in a polyorganosiloxane composition D for obtaining a silicone elastomer, either crosslinkable at room temperature or with the heat from polyaddition reactions in the presence of a platinum catalyst; and

Sub D1
the amounts of the various constituents A1, A3, B1, B2, B3, C1 and C2 lie within the ranges mentioned below;

the amount of platinum, expressed in parts by weight of elemental platinum, lies within the range going from 1 to 250 ppm with respect to the total weight of the polyorganosiloxane constituent(s) of the curable compositions D; and

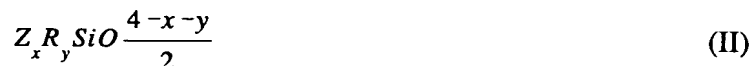
C
the amounts of constituents A3, B2, B3 and C2 of mixtures A, B and C, expressed in parts by weight of the constituent, lie within the range going from 0.5 to 30 parts by weight per 100 parts of the polyorganosiloxane constituent(s) of the curable compositions D.

2. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the curable polyorganosiloxane compositions D, presented as one or more packages, contain a main constituent formed from one or more polyorganosiloxane constituents, a suitable catalyst and, optionally, one or more compounds selected from the group of: reinforcing, semi-reinforcing, or bulking fillers; fillers serving to modify the rheology of the curable compositions; crosslinking agents; adhesion promoters; plasticizers; catalysts; inhibitors; and colorants.

3. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the polyorganosiloxane consist of siloxyl units of general formula:



and/or siloxyl units of formula:



in which formulae the various symbols have the following meaning:

- the symbols R, which are identical or different, each represent a non-hydrolysable hydrocarbon-type group defined as:

- C'
- * alkyl and haloalkyl radicals having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms and containing from 1 to 6 chlorine and/or fluorine atoms;
 - * cycloalkyl and halocycloalkyl radicals having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms and containing from 1 to 4 chlorine and/or fluorine atoms;
 - * aryl, alkylaryl and haloaryl radicals having from 6 to 8 carbon atoms and containing from 1 to 4 chlorine and/or fluorine atoms; or
 - * cyanoalkyl radicals having from 3 to 4 carbon atoms;
 - the symbols Z each represent a hydrogen atom or a C₂-C₆ alkenyl group;
 - n = an integer equal to 0, 1, 2 or 3;
 - x = an integer equal to 0, 1, 2 or 3;
 - y = an integer equal to 0, 1 or 2;
 - the sum x + y lies within the range going from 1 to 3.

4. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the polyorganosiloxane compositions D are those one-component or two-component compositions crosslinkable at room temperature or with heat from polyaddition reactions, called RTV compositions, which comprise:

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- (a) 100 parts by weight of at least one polydiorganosiloxane comprising linear homopolymers or copolymers having at least 2 vinyl groups per molecule, these vinyl groups being linked to different silicon atoms and located in the chain and/or at the chain ends, the other organic radicals of which, linked to the silicon atoms, are chosen from methyl, ethyl and phenyl radicals, at least 60 mol% of these other radicals being methyl radicals, and having a viscosity ranging from 400 to 100,000 mPa.s at 25°C;
 - (b) at least one polyorganohydrosiloxane chosen from linear or cyclic homopolymers and copolymers having at least 2 hydrogen atoms per molecule, these hydrogen atoms being linked to different silicon atoms and the organic radicals of which, linked to the silicon atoms, are chosen from methyl, ethyl and phenyl radicals, at least 60 mol% of these radicals being methyl radicals, and having a viscosity ranging from 5 to 1000 mPa.s at 25°C, reactant (b) being used in an amount such that the molar ratio of the hydride functional groups of (b) to the vinyl groups of (a) is between 1.1 and 4;
 - (c) a catalytically effective amount of a platinum catalyst;
 - (d) 0 to 120 part(s) by weight of siliceous filler(s) per 100 parts by weight of the combination of polyorganosiloxanes (a) + (b).

5. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein up to 100% by weight of reactant (a) is replaced with a polyorganosiloxane resin containing from 0.1 to 20% by weight of one or more vinyl groups in its structure, said structure having at least two

different units chosen from M (triorganosiloxyl), D (diorganosiloxyl), T (monoorganosiloxyl) and Q ($\text{SiO}_{4/2}$) units, at least one of these units being a T or Q unit.

Sub D2
6. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the polyorganosiloxane compositions D are those one-component or two-component compositions crosslinkable with heat from polyaddition reactions, called LSR compositions, these compositions satisfying the definitions with regard to polyorganosiloxane compositions crosslinkable at room temperature except with regard to the viscosity of the vinyl-containing polydiorganosiloxane reactant (a) which this time lies within the range going from a value greater than 100,000 mPa.s to 500,000 mPa.s.

7. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the polyorganosiloxane compositions D are those one-component or two-component compositions crosslinkable with heat from polyaddition reactions, called polyaddition EVC compositions, which comprise:

- (a') 100 parts by weight of polydiorganosiloxane gum which is a linear homopolymer or copolymer having at least 2 vinyl groups per molecule, these vinyl groups being linked to different silicon atoms and located in the chain and/or at the chain ends, the other organic radicals of which, linked to the silicon atoms, are chosen from methyl, ethyl and phenyl radicals, at least 60 mol% of these other radicals being methyl radicals, and the said gum having a viscosity of greater than 500,000 mPa.s at 25°C;

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- (b') at least one polyorganohydrosiloxane chosen from linear, cyclic or network homopolymers and copolymers having at least 3 hydrogen atoms per molecule, these hydrogen atoms being linked to different silicon atoms, and the organic radicals of which, linked to the silicon atoms, are chosen from methyl, ethyl and phenyl radicals, at least 60 mol% of these radicals being methyl radicals, and having a viscosity ranging from 5 to 1000 mPa.s at 25°C, reactant (b') being used in an amount such that the molar ratio of the hydride functional groups of (b') to the vinyl groups of (a') is between 0.4 and 10;
- (c') a catalytically effective amount of a platinum catalyst;
- (d') 0.5 to 120 parts by weight of siliceous filler(s) per 100 parts by weight of the combination of polyorganosiloxanes (a') + (b').
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C²

9. (Twice Amended) Articles made of silicone elastomer having good arc-tracking and arc-erosion resistance properties, and good flame-resistance properties and good mechanical properties, which are obtained by crosslinking:

- polyorganosiloxane compositions D as defined in claim 1.
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REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, reexamination and reconsideration of the subject application are respectfully requested in light of the amendments above and the comments which follow.